

THE LEGACY OF MARCUS GARVEY

"We meet at Liberty Hall, not as cringing sycophants, but as men and women standing erect and demanding our rights from all quarters. "

(Speech delivered at Liberty Hall, Harlem, U.S.A in 1920.)

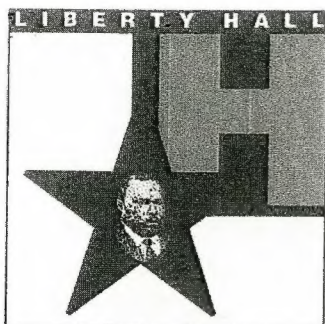
Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey

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GARVEY'S NEW JAMAICA

Jamaica at the beginning of the 1900s was characterized by widespread illiteracy, an inadequate and inefficient education system, poor health sector, underdeveloped infrastructure, and lack of democracy. At the heart of Garvey's programme for Jamaica was the improvement of the quality of life of the Jamaican masses - the black people, who were the numerical majority but had the least political and economic power.

"In this population there is a social arrangement whereby all positions of influence are held by a minority class...In the midst of this distress of the black majority we have a prosperous minority of white, coloured and a few black persons who have been taken under the patronage of the privileged minority"

(Garvey, 1930.)

Garvey sought to fix this situation. He envisioned a new Jamaica, which was politically independent with an educated, intelligent and patriotic citizenry; democratic government; strong economy; social order and equal rights and justice. Garvey thought that Jamaica had the potential to be a developed nation. Most of his proposals have been put into place by successive governments but they were considered impossible during the colonial period.

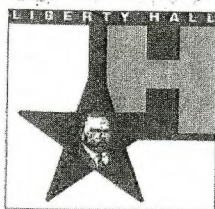
Some of his proposals were:

- Political and economic independence.
- A minimum wage for the labouring and working classes.
- Protection of native labour and industries.
- Establishment of Government high schools and public libraries in all parishes.
- Establishment of a Jamaican University and Polytechnic.
- Strict laws against corruption in the justice system and Government.
- A National Opera House and an Academy of Music and Art.

- The granting of city status to the townships of Montego Bay and Port Antonio.
- Construction of low income housing with easy payment plans.
- Development of crown lands agriculturally and otherwise to provide jobs.
- A law to compel trusts, companies, combines and corporations to contribute to the social and economic development of the communities in which they operate.
- Development of a profitable and well-marketed Jamaican tourism industry.
- Establishment of a Central Industrial Bank to assist in the development of native industries within the Island.
- Formation of trade unions and governmental support for the right of workers to protest.

We are going to emancipate ourselves from mental slavery because whilst others might free the body, none but ourselves can free the mind. Mind is your only ruler, sovereign. The man who is not able to develop and use his mind is bound to be the slave of the other man who uses his mind because man is related to man under all circumstances, for good or for ill."

(Excerpt from a speech delivered at Menelik Hall, Nova Scotia, Canada in October, 1937; Source: **The Marcus Garvey and UNIA Papers** vol. VII, edited by Robert Hill (University of California Press, 1993) p. 791



THE PHILOSOPHY AND OPINIONS OF MARCUS MOSIAH GARVEY

***"Leadership means everything- PAIN,
BLOOD, DEATH."***

***"A Man's bread and butter is only
insured when he works for it."***

***"We Negroes believe in the God of Ethiopia, the
everlasting God, God the Father, God the Son
and God the Holy Ghost. The one God of all
ages. That is the God in whom we believe but
we shall worship Him through the spectacles of
Ethiopia."***

***"NATIONHOOD is the highest ideal of
all peoples."***

*Source: The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey vols. I and II,
compiled by Amy Jacques Garvey (The Majority Press, U.S.A., 1986)*

THE PHILOSOPHY AND OPINIONS OF
MARCUS MOSIAH GARVEY



*"Let AFRICA be our guiding star
our STAR OF DESTINY"*

*" EDUCATION is the medium by which a
people are prepared for the creation of
their own particular civilization and the
advancement and glory of their race."*

*"The greatest weapon used against the Negro
is DISORGANIZATION."*

*" Men who are in earnest are not
afraid of consequences."*

*" Be as proud of your race today as our fore-
fathers were in the days of yore. We have a
beautiful history, and we shall create another
in the future that will astonish the earth."*

Source: *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey* vols. I and II,
compiled by Amy Jacques Garvey (The Majority Press, USA, 1986).